

**IN THE CLAIMS**

*Please amend the claims as follows:*

1. (Currently Amended) A base station apparatus comprising:  
  
a communication unit which communicates with a terminal apparatus at variable transmission rates;  
  
a channel allocation unit which allocates predetermined ones of a plurality of time slots included in a frame, such that time slots in a plurality of frames consecutive over a predetermined period are allocated to the terminal apparatus, and time slots in a plurality of frames consecutive over a period other than the predetermined period are allocated to another terminal apparatus ~~a channel to the terminal apparatus over a predetermined period;~~  
  
a change planning unit which plans timing for changing a transmission rate for the terminal apparatus in a period which is defined by a plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated ~~the channel-allocated period;~~ and  
  
a change determination unit which determines to change the transmission rate for the terminal apparatus if a remaining period, occurring between a change in the transmission rate planned by the change planning unit and an end of the period defined by the plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated, is equal to or greater than a threshold value, and determines not to change the transmission rate for the terminal apparatus if the remaining period is not equal to or greater than the threshold value ~~whether or not it perform the change of the transmission rate for the terminal apparatus, based on a remaining period occurring between a change in the transmission rate planned by the change planning unit and an end of the channel-allocated period.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The base station apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a link quality derivation unit which derives link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus, wherein

the change determination unit derives a remainder of the period defined by the plurality of frames ~~a remaining period of the channel~~ for the case of changing the transmission rate, based on a length of the period which is defined by the plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated ~~the channel-allocated period~~ and the planned timing for changing the transmission rate, and further determines to perform the change of the transmission rate based on the derived link quality if the derived remainder of the period defined by the plurality of frames is equal to or greater than a threshold value ~~depending on the derived remaining period of the channel~~.

3. (Original) The base station apparatus according to claim 2, wherein  
for the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus, the link quality derivation unit measures link quality based on a signal received from the terminal apparatus.

4. (Original) The base station apparatus according to claim 2, wherein  
for the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus, the link quality derivation unit detects information on link quality which is included in a signal received from the terminal apparatus.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A transmission rate changing method comprising:  
allocating predetermined ones of a plurality of time slots included in a frame, such that time slots in a plurality of frames consecutive over a predetermined period are allocated to a terminal apparatus, and time slots in a plurality of frames consecutive over a period other than the

~~predetermined period are allocated to another terminal apparatus a channel to a terminal apparatus over a predetermined period;~~

planning timing for changing a transmission rate for the terminal apparatus in a period which is defined by a plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated ~~the channel-allocated period;~~ and

determining to change the transmission rate for the terminal apparatus if a remaining period, occurring between a planned change in the transmission rate and an end of the period defined by the plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated, is equal to or greater than a threshold value, and determining not to change the transmission rate for the terminal apparatus if the remaining period is not equal to or greater than the threshold value ~~whether or not to change the transmission rate at the planned timing based on a remaining period occurring between a planned change in the transmission rate and an end of the channel-allocated period.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The transmission rate changing method according to claim 6, further comprising deriving link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus, wherein the determining includes deriving a remainder of the period which is defined by the plurality of frames ~~the remaining period of the channel~~ for the case of changing the transmission rate from a length of the period which is defined by the plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated ~~the channel-allocated period~~ and the planned timing for changing the transmission rate, and includes determining ~~whether or not~~ to perform the change of the transmission rate based on the derived link quality if the derived remainder of the period defined by the plurality of frames is equal to or greater than a threshold value ~~depending on the derived remaining period of the channel.~~

8. (Original) The transmission rate changing method according to claim 7, wherein

in deriving the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus, link quality based on a signal received from the terminal apparatus is measured as the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus.

9. (Original) The transmission rate changing method according to claim 7, wherein in deriving the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus, information on link quality included in a signal received from the terminal apparatus is detected as the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus.

10. (Currently Amended) A recording medium storing a program which makes a computer execute:

allocating predetermined ones of a plurality of time slots included in a frame, such that time slots in a plurality of frames consecutive over a predetermined period are allocated to a terminal apparatus, and time slots in a plurality of frames consecutive over a period other than the predetermine period are allocated to another terminal apparatus ~~a channel to a terminal apparatus via a wireless network over a predetermined period;~~

planning timing for changing a transmission rate for the terminal apparatus in a period which is defined by a plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated ~~the channel-allocated period;~~ and

determining to change the transmission rate for the terminal apparatus if a remaining period, occurring between a planned change in the transmission rate and an end of the period defined by the plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated, is equal to or greater than a threshold value, and determining not to change the transmission rate for the terminal apparatus if the remaining period is not equal to or grater than the threshold value ~~whether or not~~

~~to change the transmission rate at the planned timing based on a remaining period occurring~~  
between a planned change in the transmission rate and an end of the channel-allocated period.

11. (Currently Amended) The recording medium according to claim 10, which further makes a computer execute: deriving link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus via the wireless network, wherein

the determining includes deriving a remainder of the period which is defined by the plurality of frames ~~the remaining period of the channel~~ for the case of changing the transmission rate from a length of the period which is defined by the plurality of frames and in which the time slots are allocated ~~the channel-allocated period~~ and the planned timing for changing the transmission rate, and includes determining ~~whether or not~~ to perform the change of the transmission rate based on the derived link quality if the derived remainder of the period defined by the plurality of frames is equal to or greater than a threshold value ~~depending on the derived remaining period of the channel~~.

12. (Previously Presented) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein in deriving the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus via the wireless network, link quality based on a signal received from the terminal apparatus via the wireless network is measured as the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus.

13. (Previously Presented) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein in deriving the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus via the wireless network, information on link quality included in a signal received from the terminal apparatus via the wireless network is detected as the link quality with respect to the terminal apparatus.

14. (Canceled)